NATIONAL MUSEUM *of the*
UNITED STATES NAVY

PRESS RELEASE

Tom Freeman: Illuminating the Past Exhibition Celebrates Naval History
Exhibit Opens on the United States Navy's Birthday on October 13

WASHINGTON, DC — The National Museum of the United States Navy presents the works of known naval artist, Tom Freeman. **Tom Freeman: Illuminating the Past** features a selection nearly 30 paintings that depict the story of the U.S. Navy from its inception to present day. The exhibition will be on display beginning on the U.S. Navy's birthday, **October 13**, **through December 12, 2016** in the museum's temporary art gallery located at the **Washington Navy Yard** at **805 Kidder Breese Street, SE**. The museum is free and open to the public.

"This remarkable collection of paintings vividly depicts many of the most significant moments in naval history, as illustrated by the brush, hand and heart of one of American's greatest maritime artists," said Jim Bruns, director of the National Museum of the United States Navy.

This fall, visitors are invited to experience original works by Tom Freeman including "Lady Luck was an American" and "Clear for Action". Lady Luck showcases the battle between the frigate USS *Constitution* and the frigate HMS *Guerriere* during the War of 1812 proved that the US Navy was a force to be reckoned with, even against the then-dominant British Navy. In "Clear for Action," the frigate USS *Constitution* prepares for combat during her third major battle of the War of 1812 against small warships HMS Cyane and HMS Levant.

ABOUT TOM FREEMAN
Tom Freeman's paintings are well known all over the world. He is best known for his depictions of stunning naval scenes. His professional art career began after he left the US Marine Corps in 1977. Mr. Freeman's work has appeared on many magazines such as *Readers Digest*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Boating*, *Yachting*, *Business Week*, and even *TV Guide*. Many of his original paintings and limited edition prints hang in the White House, Vatican City, Arizona Memorial in Honolulu, Hawaii, Immigration/Clandestine and Naval Museum in Haifa, and many other places of note. He has done work for the National Parks Service and many corporations throughout the world. Freeman was selected as the first artist-in-residence to the United States Naval Institute.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY
The National Museum of the United States Navy (NMUSN) collects, preserves, displays, and interprets historic naval artifacts and artwork to inform, educate, and inspire naval personnel and the general public. The NMUSN was established in 1961 and opened to the public in 1963. As an official Department

of the Navy museum under the Naval History and Heritage Command, the National Museum of the United States Navy is the only Navy museum to present an overview of U.S. naval history 1775 to the present. Permanent and temporary exhibitions commemorate the Navy's wartime heroes and battles as well as its peacetime contributions in exploration, diplomacy, navigation and humanitarian service. The NMUSN is free and open to the public. www.history.navy.mil/NMUSN

VISITOR INFORMATION
The National Museum of the United States Navy (NMUSN), located at 805 Kidder Breese Street in the Historic Washington Navy Yard in South East DC, is free and open to the public. General admission to the NMUSN is free. NMUSN is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekends and holidays; closed on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving; Christmas Eve and Day. For more information about visiting the museum, and requirements for access, visit www.history.navy.mil/NMUSN. For general information, call 202-433-4882 or email navymuseum@navy.mil.

Connect with us: #NMUSN | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram

# # #

Note to Media: Details on the opening reception are forthcoming. Hi-res images are available upon request.